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Police Say 'Opportunists Hell-Bent on Crime' Caused Rampage
By BARTON REPPERT
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District of Columbia Police Chief Maurice Turner blames "misfits" and "opportunists hell-bent on crime" for a violent rampage that erupted in the heart of the nation's capital after an abortive demonstration by the Ku Klux Klan.

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The All People's Congress, one of the groups sponsoring the anti-Klan protests, issued a statement late Saturday saying it holds the Reagan administration responsible for allowing the Klan to demonstrate in Washington and for "provoking the struggle which followed."

It asserted that the street battles resulted from "the provocative and violent manner in which federal and local authorities treated the anti-Klan demonstration."

At a news conference today, Monica Moorehead, national coordinator of the All Peoples Congress, said Turner's "accusation that it was anti-Klan demonstrators who caused the violence is nothing but a coverup of the terrible social conditions that the people of this city are living through. The police and the Reagan administration are the real provocateurs and are ultimately responsible for this rebellion against poverty."

Ms. Moorehead told a news conference that "stealing a bicycle, that is nothing. We're talking about billions and billions of dollars that have been stolen from social programs."

John Gibson of the Washington Anti-Klan Network said the melee was caused by "paid provocateurs" of the FBI and the CIA, but he offered no evidence to support his charges.

EXCERPTED